

REMARKS

This responds to the Office Action mailed on March 23, 2004. Claims 1, 16, 17, 26, 39 and 40 are amended, and claim 19 is canceled in view of the amendment to claim 16; as a result, claims 1-7, 9-17, 20-26 and 29-40 are now pending in this application.

§103 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 1-7, 16-17, 20-24, 26, 29-30, 34-35 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yokoyama et al. (US 5,452,212) in view of O'Shea (US 6,199,013).

Applicant respectfully traverses. Applicant has amended independent claim 1, 16 and 26 to further clarify the recited language.

With respect to amended independent claim 1, Applicant is unable to find, among other things, in the cited portions of Yokoyama and O'Shea, either alone or in combination, a showing or fair suggestion of an electronic navigational aid device, where the processor and memory are adapted to cooperate to access a sequence of maneuvers associated with a sequence of route segments and provide route guidance that accounts for insignificant route segments, including route guidance that modifies a maneuver associated with an insignificant route segment, as recited in the claim. Claims 2-7 depend, either directly or indirectly, on claim 1, and are believed to be patentable for the reasons provided with respect to claim 1.

With respect to amended independent claim 16, Applicant is unable to find, among other things, in the cited portions of Yokoyama and O'Shea, either alone or in combination, a showing or fair suggestion of a navigation system, comprising a server and a navigation device adapted to communicate with and retrieve navigation data from the server via a communication channel, where the system is adapted to identify a sequence of route segments and a sequence of maneuvers associated with the route segments, determine whether a route segment in the sequence of route segments is significant or insignificant, provide route guidance for a maneuver associated with a significant route segment, and account for an insignificant route segment prior to providing route guidance for a maneuver associated with the insignificant route segment, as recited in the claim. Amended claim 16 includes language recited in claim 19, which was indicated to be allowable. Claims 17 and 20-24 depend on amended independent claim 16, and

are believed to be patentable at least for the reasons provided with respect to claim 16. Claim 17 is amended to correspond with the language associated with amended claim 16.

With respect to amended independent claim 26, Applicant is unable to find, among other things, in the cited portions of Yokoyama and O'Shea, either alone or in combination, a showing or fair suggestion of a method, comprising identifying a sequence of maneuvers associated with a sequence of route segments, determining whether a route segment in the sequence of route segments is significant or insignificant, upon determining that the route segment is significant, providing route guidance for a maneuver associated with the significant route segment, and upon determining that the route segment is insignificant, accounting for the insignificant route segment prior to providing route guidance for a maneuver associated with the insignificant route segment, wherein accounting for insignificant route segments includes nullifying the maneuver associated with some insignificant route segments and modifying the maneuver associated with other insignificant route segments, as recited in the claim. Claim 29-30 and 34-35 depend, either directly or indirectly, on claim 26, and are believed to be patentable for the reasons provided with respect to claim 26.

Claims 31-33, 36-37, 39-40 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yokoyama et al. (US 5,452,212) in view of O'Shea (US 6,199,013) and further in view of Hasegawa et al. (US 6,510,379). Applicant respectfully traverses. Applicant has amended independent claims 39 and 40 to further clarify the recited language.

Claims 31-33 and 36-37 depend, either directly or indirectly, on claim 26, and are believed to be patentable for the reasons provided with respect to claim 26.

With respect to amended independent claim 39, Applicant is unable to find, among other things, in the cited portions of Yokoyama, O'Shea, and Hasegawa, either alone or in various combinations, a showing or fair suggestion of a method, comprising accessing a sequence of maneuvers associated with a sequence of route segments, determining whether a route segment from the sequence of route segments is significant or insignificant, upon determining that the route segment is significant, providing route guidance for a maneuver associated with the significant route segment, and upon determining that the route segment is insignificant, accounting for the insignificant route segment prior to providing route guidance for a maneuver

associated with the insignificant route segment, wherein accounting for the insignificant route segment includes modifying the maneuver associated with the insignificant route segment, as recited in the claim. With respect to determining whether a route segment is significant or insignificant, the recited method further includes determining whether the route segment has a name, determining whether the route segment has a length less than a predetermined distance, determining whether the route segment has a length less than a length of a successive route segment, and determining whether a route guidance maneuver for the route segment and a route guidance maneuver for a successive route segment qualify for nullification or modification.

With respect to amended independent claim 40, Applicant is unable to find, among other things, in the cited portions of Yokoyama, O'Shea, and Hasegawa, either alone or in various combinations, a showing or fair suggestion of a method, comprising accessing a sequence of maneuvers associated with a sequence of route segments, determining whether a route segment in the sequence of route segments is significant or insignificant, wherein determining whether a route segment is significant or insignificant, upon determining that the route segment is significant, providing route guidance for a maneuver associated with the significant route segment, and upon determining that a route segment is insignificant, accounting for the insignificant route segment prior to providing route guidance for a maneuver associated with the insignificant route segment, wherein accounting for the insignificant route segment includes modifying a first maneuver and nullifying a second maneuver associated with the insignificant route segment, as recited in the claim. With respect to determining whether a route segment is significant or insignificant, the recited method further includes determining whether the route segment has a name, upon determining that the route segment does not have a name, determining whether the route segment has a length less than a predetermined distance, upon determining that the route segment has a length less than a predetermined distance, determining whether the route segment has a length less than a length of a successive route segment, and upon determining that the route segment has a length less than a length of a successive route segment, determining whether a route guidance maneuver for the route segment and a route guidance maneuver for a successive route segment qualify for nullification or modification.

Thus, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections, and reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 9-15 and 38 have been allowed.

Claims 19 and 25 were indicated to be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 16 has been amended to include language recited in claim 19, and thus claim 19 is canceled in view thereof. Applicant respectfully asserts that claim 25 further limits and thus properly depends on amended claim 16, and thus is in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney (612) 373-6960 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

All correspondence should continue to be sent to:

Devon A. Rolf
Garmin International, Inc.
1200 E. 151st Street
Olathe, KS 66062

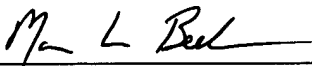
Respectfully submitted,

MICHAEL CHILDS ET AL.

By their Representatives,

SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG, WOESSNER & KLUTH, P.A.
P.O. Box 2938
Minneapolis, MN 55402
(612) 373-6960

Date 5-24-04

By 
Marvin L. Beekman
Reg. No. 38,377

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 24 day of May, 2004. *(Chum by)*

CANDIS BUENDING

Name

Signature

